



# PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date: February 10, 2009

Number: 10-03

Subject: Teaching Performance Expectations for Special  
Education Programs

## **Summary**

This Program Sponsor Alert is to inform all Education Specialist program sponsors that Teaching Performance Expectations for Special Education were approved at the October 1, 2009 Commission meeting.

## **Teaching Performance Expectations**

One of the recommendations presented to the Commission by the Special Education Workgroup and approved by the Commission was to move toward the future use of a teaching performance assessment for special education teachers. Although development and implementation of an Education Specialist teaching performance assessment is not feasible at the present time, a necessary beginning step would be to develop Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs) for Education Specialist Teaching Credentials that could be used immediately by programs, and, when feasible, as a basis upon which to develop a teaching performance assessment in the future.

The TPEs define what a beginning Education Specialist teacher should know and be able to do. As part of their work, the Special Education Work Group and the Design Team developed a set of TPEs that describe expectations for the performance of a beginning Education Specialist teacher. Because a set of teaching performance expectations for beginning multiple and single subject teachers had been developed and in use in California, this document became a foundational source upon which to begin the development of the Education Specialist TPEs. Five of the Education Specialist TPEs are identical to the TPEs for multiple and single subject teacher preparation programs while the others have language specific to what an individual earning an Preliminary Education Specialist teaching credential must know and be able to do.

At the October 2009 meeting, the TPEs for Preliminary Education Specialist teaching credential programs were adopted by the Commission. It is expected that once the current Preliminary Level I Education Specialist teaching credential programs transition to the 2008-09 standards, all candidates' knowledge and skills will be assessed against the adopted TPEs.

## **References**

Teaching Performance Expectations for Special Education (will be posted on the standards web page by February 24, 2010, until then available in the October 2009 agenda item <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2009-10/2009-10-agenda.html>)

TPEs for Multiple and Single Subject (<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/TPA-files/TPEs-Full-Version.pdf>)

Commission Agenda item 2D, October 1, 2009:  
(<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2009-10/2009-10-2D.pdf>)

## **Contact Information**

Jan Jones Wadsworth at [jjones-wadsworth@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:jjones-wadsworth@ctc.ca.gov)